

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00
INRE-00 DOEE-00 /026 W
-----063256 281008Z /12
O 280913Z JUN 78
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1408
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 09794

EXDIS USCTB

PASS TO DOE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: PARM US UK UR
SUBJECT: CTB NEGOTIATIONS: US STATEMENT MADE AT PLENARY
MEETING, JUNE 27, 1978

CTB MESSAGE NO. 253

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT DELIVERED AT PLENARY
MEETING, JUNE 27, BY ACTING HEAD OF DELEGATION
GERALD JOHNSON. BEGIN TEXT:

AT OUR PLENARY MEETING ON JUNE 23 I POINTED OUT THAT
WE WOULD SOON SUBMIT A PROPOSAL ON THE NUMBER AND LOCA-
TIONS OF NATIONAL SEISMIC STATIONS IN THE USSR, AND I
SUGGESTED THAT THIS PROPOSAL, TOGETHER WITH THE INFORMA-
TION PROVIDED ON OUR NSS PROTOTYPE, SHOULD ENABLE US TO
SPEED UP OUR NEGOTIATIONS ON THIS IMPORTANT MATTER. WE
STRONGLY HOPE THAT THE PROPOSAL I AM SUBMITTING TODAY
WILL OPEN THE DOOR FOR EARLY COMPLETION OF A CTB TREATY.

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AS OUR NEGOTIATING PARTNERS ARE AWARE, WE HAVE BEEN
STUDYING VARIOUS COMBINATIONS OF SINGLE BOREHOLE SEISMIC
STATIONS AND ARRAY STATIONS OF A TYPE WHICH, IF INSTALLED
IN THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES, WOULD GIVE OUR
COUNTRIES SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASED CONFIDENCE IN COMPLI-
ANCE WITH THE OBLIGATIONS OF A CTB TREATY. ON MARCH 15
WE STATED THAT FOR THIS PURPOSE WE WERE CONSIDERING UP TO

TWENTY SUCH INSTALLATIONS FOR THE SOVIET UNION, INCLUDING BOTH SINGLE STATIONS AND ARRAYS.

WE NOW PROPOSE THE INSTALLATION OF FIFTEEN SINGLE BOREHOLE STATIONS. THESE STATIONS WOULD BE INSTALLED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE TREATY, AND ALL FIFTEEN WOULD BE INSTALLED NO LATER THAN TWO YEARS AFTER ENTRY INTO FORCE. IN ADDITION, WE PROPOSE THAT THE VERIFICATION AGREEMENT PROVIDE FOR UPGRADING AT LEAST TWO OF THE STATIONS TO ARRAY STATIONS AT A LATER STAGE. TIMING FOR THIS UPGRADING WOULD BE FLEXIBLE. IT WOULD OCCUR SOME TIME IN THE REMAINDER OF THE FIVE-YEAR PERIOD AFTER THE SINGLE STATIONS HAVE BEEN INSTALLED.

WE PROPOSE THAT THE FIFTEEN NATIONAL SEISMIC STATIONS BE INSTALLED AT TECHNICALLY APPROPRIATE SITES IN THE VICINITY OF LOCATIONS LISTED IN THE WORKING PAPER THAT WE ARE SUBMITTING TODAY. TWO STATIONS WHICH WE PROPOSE FOR UPGRADING TO ARRAYS ARE DENOTED IN THE WORKING PAPER AS ALMA ATA (NO. 4 ON THE LIST) AND BODAYBO (NO. 7).

WE HAVE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT THE SOVIET PROPOSAL THAT THE FIVE STATIONS IT HAS OFFERED IN THE CCD AD HOC EXPERTS' GROUP FOR THE INTERNATIONAL SEISMIC DATA EXCHANGE SHOULD COMPRISE AN IMPORTANT COMPONENT OF THE NSS AND WE
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HAVE ACCORDINGLY INCLUDED IN OUR LIST LOCATIONS NEAR ALL FIVE CCD SITES. IN ONE INSTANCE, HOWEVER, OBNINSK (NO.10 ON OUR LIST), WE ARE PROPOSING A LOCATION NORTHWEST OF THE CCD STATION, BECAUSE THE GEOLOGY THERE WOULD APPEAR TO BE MORE FAVORABLE FOR FINDING A QUIET SITE. I MIGHT ADD HERE THAT, APART FROM LOCATIONS NEAR THE CCD SITES, THE PLACE NAMES SHOWN IN OUR WORKING PAPER WERE SELECTED MERELY FOR CONVENIENT REFERENCE, AND OTHER NAMES MAY BE MORE APPROPRIATE.

THE LOCATIONS WE ARE PROPOSING WERE DESIGNED TO PROVIDE BROAD COVERAGE OF THE USSR WHILE PROVIDING INCREASED CAPABILITY IN REGIONS WHERE VERIFICATION OF A CTB TREATY WOULD BE MORE DIFFICULT. IN GENERAL, THESE ARE SEISMICALLY ACTIVE REGIONS OR OTHER REGIONS OF PARTICULAR VERIFICATION INTEREST INCLUDING THOSE WITH SALT DEPOSITS. STATIONS WOULD BE SEPARATED BY ABOUT 1000 TO 1200 KILOMETERS IN AND NEAR SEISMICALLY ACTIVE REGIONS AND BY ABOUT 1600 TO 1800 KILOMETERS IN REGIONS OF LOW SEISMIC ACTIVITY.

IN DEVELOPING OUR PROPOSAL WE HAVE ASSUMED CERTAIN NOISE VALUES AT THE LOCATIONS SELECTED, BASED ON US

EXPERIENCE IN COMPARABLE REGIONS. ON THIS BASIS OUR LIST IS ORGANIZED IN TERMS OF ESTIMATED SEISMIC NOISE. THE FIRST NINE SITES ON THE LIST ARE CONSIDERED THE QUIETEST, THE NEXT FOUR SOMEWHAT LESS QUIET, AND THE LAST TWO THE LEAST QUIET. WE ARE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THESE ESTIMATES OF SEISMIC NOISE LEVELS IN MORE DETAIL, AND SUGGEST THAT THIS BE DONE IN A TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP. OUR ESTIMATES OF THE CAPABILITY OF THESE STATIONS OBVIOUSLY DEPEND ON THE NOISE VALUES WE HAVE ASSUMED IN MAKING THOSE

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ESTIMATES.

OUR OBJECTIVE IS TO ACHIEVE A NETWORK THAT GENERALLY CONFORMS TO THOSE NOISE STANDARDS. I WOULD EMPHASIZE IN THIS REGARD THAT WE WOULD EXPECT TO FOLLOW A COOPERATIVE PROCEDURE FOR THE SELECTION OF ACTUAL NSS SITES SUCH AS THE PROCEDURE SET FORTH IN OUR ILLUSTRATIVE TEXT OF MAY 8. THAT PROCEDURE IS INTENDED TO PROVIDE FOR THE ACTUAL SITING OF A STATION WITHIN AN AREA OF 10,000 SQUARE KILOMETERS IN THE VICINITY OF A LOCATION AGREED BY THE PARTICIPANTS AND LISTED IN THE ANNEX TO THE SEPARATE VERIFICATION AGREEMENT. THE MAY 8 PAPER ALSO PROVIDES THAT THE HOST COUNTRY MAY PROVIDE DATA ON NOISE LEVELS AT SPECIFIC SITES, AND, IF THE PARTICIPANTS AGREE THAT THOSE NOISE LEVELS ARE SATISFACTORY, THEY MAY AGREE ON THE SPECIFIC SITES ON THAT BASIS WITHOUT FURTHER SURVEYS. BY INDICATING CERTAIN LEVELS THAT WE CONSIDER SATISFAC-

TORY, ON WHICH WE HAVE BASED OUR LIST OF PROPOSED SITES,
WE HOPE TO FACILITATE THE PROCEDURES SET FORTH IN OUR
MAY 8 PAPER.

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AS AMBASSADOR WARNKE POINTED OUT IN HIS PLENARY STATE-
MENT OF MARCH 15, THE US OBJECTIVE IN PROPOSING A NETWORK
OF NATIONAL SEISMIC STATIONS IS TO INCREASE CONFIDENCE
AND TO PROMOTE THE SMOOTH AND COOPERATIVE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE TREATY. THE SPECIFIC CONTRIBUTION OF NSS, CON-
FIGURED IN A NETWORK SUCH AS WE ARE PROPOSING TODAY AND
CONFORMING TO THE TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS EMBODIED IN
OUR PROTOTYPE NSS, IS TO DETECT AND IDENTIFY SEISMIC
EVENTS AT LOWER LEVELS THAN CAN BE ACHIEVED BY OTHER
MEANS, AND TO LOCATE THEM MORE ACCURATELY. NATIONAL
SEISMIC STATIONS WILL THEREFORE REDUCE UNCERTAINTY AND
GROUNDS FOR DOUBT ABOUT THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE TREATY
REGIME. WE ARE, OF COURSE, PREPARED TO ACCEPT A SIMILAR
NETWORK OF NSS IN US TERRITORY AND TO RECEIVE SOVIET
PROPOSALS FOR THEIR LOCATIONS.

WE WOULD NOW ASK OUR NEGOTIATING PARTNERS TO CONSIDER
THE US PROPOSAL REGARDING NATIONAL SEISMIC STATIONS AND
LET US HAVE THEIR REACTIONS AS SOON AS THEY ARE IN A
POSITION TO DO SO. OUR PROPOSALS HAVE NOW BEEN SET FORTH
IN FULL. AS I SAID EARLIER, WE HOPE THAT, WITH OUR
PROPOSALS ON THE TABLE, IT WILL NOW BE POSSIBLE TO PRESS
FORWARD WITH SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT. END
TEXT. JOHNSON

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